

*"A City of Excellence"*



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# SEAT PLEASANT NEWS

2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT

### MAYOR

Eugene W. Grant

### COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Reveral L. Yeargin

### WARD I

Lamar Maxwell

### WARD II COUNCILMEMBER

Aretha A. Stephenson

### WARD IV COUNCILMEMBER

Charl Jones

### WARD V COUNCILMEMBER

Gloria Sistrunk

### AT-LARGE COUNCILMEMBER

Shireka McCarthy

### AT-LARGE COUNCILMEMBER

Kelly Porter

### ACTING CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Jeannelle Wallace

### TREASURER

Robert L. Ashton

### CHIEF OF POLICE

Devan Martin

### DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Samuel Prue

### DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC

### DEVELOPMENT

Weyimi Ayu

### CITY CLERK

Dashaun N. Lanham

### DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC

### ENGAGEMENT

Sharron Lipford

THE MAYOR'S  
**STATE OF THE CITY**  
ADDRESS • 2017

Mayor Eugene W. Grant

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

Monday  
**JAN. 30**  
**7:00PM**

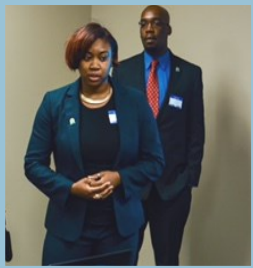
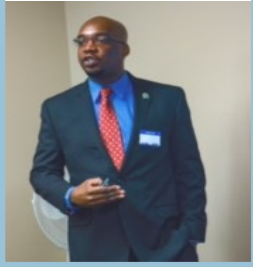
SEAT PLEASANT ACTIVITY CENTER  
5720 ADDISON ROAD, SEAT PLEASANT, MD 20743

*"A Smart City of Excellence"*

Join the City Council, the Executive Management Team, Business Leaders, Residents and Citizens as they come to listen to Mayor **Eugene W. Grant** present the State of the City Address.

Mayor Grant will give remarks about the current fiscal affairs of the city. Moreover, he will lay out his vision for the city going into the next decade, and he will outline the Smart City initiative.

## Seat Pleasant Meets with Secretary Kenneth Holt

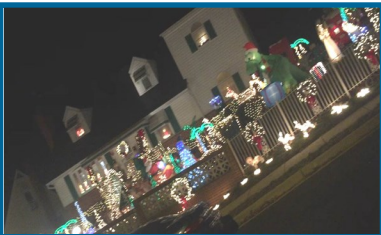


On December 15, 2016, Mayor **Eugene W. Grant** led a Seat Pleasant Delegation of City Councilmembers, Executive Management members and support staff to a meeting with members from Governor **Larry Hogan's** Cabinet and high ranking officials. Cabinet Secretary **Kenneth Holt** who serves as Secretary for the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development was the senior official from the Hogan Administration. Additionally, the Executive Director for the Governor's Office of Community Initiative, the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, and representatives from the Maryland Department of Commerce were also in attendance to listen to a presentation from Seat Pleasant: *"A City of Excellence"*.

The Seat Pleasant Delegation included: Mayor Eugene W. Grant, City Council President and Ward III Representative **Reveral Yeargin**, At-Large City Councilmember **Shireka McCarthy**, Ward I Councilmember **Lamar Maxwell**, and Ward V Councilmember **Glorial Sis-trunk**. Additionally, Acting City Administrator **Jeannelle Wallace**, City Treasurer **Robert Ashton**, Acting Economic Development Director **Weyimi Ayu**, Acting Chief of Police **Devan Martin**, Acting Director for Public Engagement **Sharron Lipford**, Acting Director for Public Works **Samuel Prue**, and Director for Human Resources **Beverly Barber**. Support Staff who attended included **Markisha Garner** from Public Works, **Anthony Biddix** and **Adeoye Agunga-Williams** both from the Department of Finance.

Mr. Ayu delivered the presentation with assistance from Ms. Lipford and Chief Martin. The presentation received glowing remarks and a strong commitment from Secretary Holt. He stated, "This was the BEST presentation I've ever heard." He went on to say, "We will help Seat Pleasant and we look forward to a long partnership with the City." Seat Pleasant is on the move and the city is expecting great things to happen over the next few years.

1st Place \$100 Mrs. Battle



## Councilmember At Large Shireka McCarthy Hosts First Annual "Light Up Your Holiday" A Christmas Light Contest

Congratulations to our winners!

Residents were judged based on "curb appeal" including 4 Categories

- (1) Unique design and creative use of lights and decorations;
- (2) Storyline or theme;
- (3) Display and placement of decorations, animated objects, etc.;
- and (4) Overall presentation.

Special thank you to the Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Company, Seat Pleasant Police Department, And Seat Pleasant department of Public Engagement.

2nd Place \$50 Mrs. Shamberger







**The University of Maryland Extension Program and The City of Seat Pleasant Presents The:**  
**“Your Money, Your Goals”**  
**Workshop**

**April 5th, 12th and 19th**  
**At 6:00 pm**

Reserve your space starting  
 Monday, February 6, 2017

By attending these workshops community members will learn about resources needed to increase their financial and personal empowerment. The workshops will provide simple and easy-to-use tools that will help the participants move toward financial stability and prosperity. Increased financial stability can provide individuals and families the ability to reach their financial and personal wellness goals.

**Spaces are limited**  
**301-336-2600**

**Sharron.Lipford@seatpleasantmd.gov**  
**Tiffani.Darby@seatpleasantmd.gov**

**Seat Pleasant Activity Center**  
**5720 Addison Road**  
**Seat Pleasant, MD 20743**

**Do you know a senior or someone that is disabled that needs help getting around?**



**We are here to help!**

If you are a resident of Seat Pleasant and are a Senior or disabled we can make sure that you have a ride to get where you need to go. You can schedule a ride to get to your doctors appointments, grocery store, bank or local pharmacy. You must make your appointment at least one week in advance. The Call-A- Bus runs from 9 am to 2 pm , Monday- Friday.

**For more information or to schedule an appointment please call**  
**Seat Pleasant City Hall at**  
**301-336-2600**



**Black History Month Program**

**Saturday, February 25, 2017**

**10:30 pm to 2 pm**

The City of Seat Pleasant presents “Harriet Tubman— The Chosen One” by award winning actress Gwendolyn Briley-Strand. Gwendolyn is an expert in the history of the great pioneer. There will also be a special presentation by Seat Pleasant's Mayor and City Council.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Seat Pleasant  
MARYLAND  
"A City of Excellence"

LAND. JOBS. PROPERTY. STOCKS. ROI. VALUE. BUSINESS. TRADE. REVENUE. CREDIT. STOCK. CASH. EXPERIENCE. STRATEGY



Weyimi Ayu, J.D., Director  
Economic Development  
Department

"Seat Pleasant offers Smart City Services that are better, faster and more personalized making it a City for Me using information and communication technology, with the Internet of Things."

## Smart Cities Update Renovation of City Hall

The City is constructing a newer, more modern City Hall facility, as well as redeveloping the Public Works building to a point that is technologically advanced. This project is completely funded through a development loan of \$4.1 million from the US Department of Agriculture. The City Council designated Seat Pleasant as a "Smart City" with an "Innovation Village."

Mayor **Eugene W. Grant** is spearheading the project and is singularly focused on bringing this project to fruition. *"Seat Pleasant has the ability to be recognized as the first Smart City in the State of Maryland,"* said Mayor Grant. *"This is a huge step forward for our economic and commercial interests towards becoming 'A City of Excellence'."* As a Smart City, Seat Pleasant will offer services that are better, faster and more personalized, making it a City for Me using information and communication technology with the Internet of Things.

The Smarter City initiative for Seat Pleasant will employ cloud-based "internet of things" (IOT) and cognitive computing capabilities that collect Big Data and are affordable by Small Town USA, where 80% of Americans live. Smart Cities is the way of the future and Seat Pleasant is positioned economically to take advantage of this new technology. This project has already begun and is slated to be completed by the first part of Year 2018.

## Main Incentives for Locating Your Business in Seat Pleasant

Tax Incentives for New and Existing Businesses



Seat Pleasant is strategically located near two major Metro Stations, Addison Road-Seat Pleasant and Capitol Heights, on the Blue Line. The City is also intersected on its main street of Addison Road by two major thoroughfares, Martin Luther King Jr. Highway and Central Avenue.

Even more importantly, Seat Pleasant is located within a geographic zone as an Enterprise Zone, HubZone and Revitalization Tax Credit Zone. An Enterprise Zone is an area of the county or city in which state and local incentives and assistance are offered to encourage the expansion of existing businesses and the attraction of new business activity and jobs.

The county's Enterprise Zone Program is administered by the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation. A HubZone is a US SBA (Small Business Administration) program for small companies that operate and employ people in what are called "Historically Under-utilized Business Zones." Revitalization/Redevelopment tax credits encourage redevelopment and investment in inner-beltway communities of Prince George's County.

Furthermore, The City of Seat Pleasant has outlined a Sustainable Communities plan that encompasses green and environmental, technolo-

gy, storm-water management, affordable housing, business development and other improvements to further advance the community.

Your business may qualify for these tax incentives so check with the Economic Development office as soon as you can! The Department can explain to you how to obtain these incentives.

Reach out at (240) 636-1200 or (301) 336-2600 or by email at [Weyimi.ayu@seatpleasantmd.gov](mailto:Weyimi.ayu@seatpleasantmd.gov)



## Business Spotlight

### Seat Pleasant Community Development Corporation

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The Seat Pleasant Community Development Corporation (SPCDC) is a non-profit, dedicated to sustainable housing and community revitalization, based in Seat Pleasant, MD, A City of Excellence. SPCDC, Inc. is excited to welcome new Executive Director, Stephanie Poplar-Best. Stephanie has well over 20 years of experience in business development, resource development, community development and workforce development. The SPCDC focuses on housing, economic development, health, education and the general well-being of the communities it serves. SPCDC is a recognized 501(c)3 organization.

# Winter Safety Tips

## Kerosene Heaters

This is cold weather season and many of us have central heat for our homes. However, we often use supplemental heating sources like space heaters and kerosene heaters to warm up the rooms in our home. House fires started by kerosene heaters happen every year right here in our area every winter and Citizen and Police Advisory Committee (CPAC) wants to give you a few tips for using kerosene heaters. We want to help keep you safe!

- Kerosene heaters require 1-K grade kerosene. **Never** use a substitute, such as gasoline or camp stove fuel. In kerosene heaters, such fuels will start a fire or explode.
- Never attempt to move a lighted kerosene heater. Extinguish the flame and allow the heater to cool before moving. Also check the wick each week.
- Never refuel a kerosene heater inside or when the heater is still hot. Wait for it to cool.
- Kerosene heaters have a constant open flame and should not be used in a room where there are flammable solvents, aerosol sprays, gasoline, kerosene containers or any type of oil.
- Keep kerosene heaters at least three feet away from all furniture, curtains, papers, clothes, bedding, and other combustible materials.
- Keep children and pets away from kerosene heaters. Touching any part of an operating heater above the open flame could result in a serious burn.
- Always turn off your kerosene heater when unattended and at night.
- Never smoke when refueling a kerosene heater.
- Clean up any kerosene spills immediately. Spills are a fire hazard.
- Never store kerosene in a container previously used to store other liquids. Be sure the container is suitable for kerosene storage and properly marked.

**Please tell CPAC about the issues you have in your neighborhood. We will discuss your concerns with the police department and do our best to fix them or make them better. Please email your ideas, comments, concerns, and suggestions to us at [cpac.seatpleasant@live.com](mailto:cpac.seatpleasant@live.com). We look forward to hearing from you! Like us on Facebook at *Seat Pleasant CPAC*!**



# SMART CITY



Now with the use of technology many cities are enhancing the lives of citizens by collecting data and connecting to the Internet of Things (IoT). Residents are looking to use technology to make their personal lives easier. With the use of Smart City Applications citizens will be able to make city life better. Applications enable to citizens to report problems within their community such as potholes, faulty street lights, and fallen trees. Reported cases can then go directly to the responsible department. When cases are completed residents will be able to see the job done. Apps will also be able to assist with things such as housing, parking and safety. Apps will make sure that cities are efficient, connected and citizens will be the key to making it happen.

A Smart City is a developed urban area that creates sustainable economic development and high quality of life by excelling in multiple key areas; economy mobility, environment, people, living and government. Excelling in these area can be done through human capital, social capital and/or information and communication technology ICT infra-



## 4 Reasons why you should have Renters Insurance

Insurance is important for the protection of not only our belongings but our families. No one likes to think about an upcoming tragedy but being prepared is for your best interest. Below are the reasons why you should have renters insurance.

### 1. *Repair or replacement of stolen items.*

In case of theft or burglaries, your renter's insurance policy will give you cash benefits to allow you to replace the lost items. However, it must be shown first that the landlord was not negligent with security and that you meet the coverage limits stated in the policy.

### 2. *Coverage for extended fire.*

Renters also cause unintentional damage to their properties. If the damage due to a fire that started from your own unit spreads to other occupants of the building, the more liability you will incur.

### 3. *Repair or replacement of items due to natural disasters.*

The landlord would have to shoulder the cost of repairs for any damages to the property's structure in case of a natural disaster like a tornado, hail storm, or wildfire. You would have to shoulder the costs of restoring or replacing your damaged personal belongings. Some insurance policies allow policyholders to purchase riders to cover damage due to hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, and volcanic eruptions.

### 4. *Coverage for temporary lodging.*

Certain events can force you to leave home and temporarily stay in a hotel and eat in some restaurants. If that happens and you have purchased this special coverage, your insurance company is liable to give you a refund.

### *Cost of Renters Insurance*

According to the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America, the average cost of insurance is between \$15-\$30 a month, or \$190 per year, for **\$30,000** of property coverage and **\$100,000** of liability coverage.

### *Where you can find Renters Insurance*

#### Insurance Company Average Annual Rates

State Farm	\$188
Allstate	\$198
Farmers	\$285
Liberty Mutual	\$328

#### Phone Number

301-499-5588
301-856-0900
240-353-4929
301-262-5242 ext. 54611

For more information please visit <http://insurance.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>





## City Council Monthly Meeting & Legislation Action Office of the City Clerk

### December 2016

#### **Monday, December 5, 2016-Regular Work Session**

Ordinance O-17-12 Amendment of FY2016-2017 Budget for Income Taxes, Smart City Contractual Services, Training, Housing Rehabilitation Fund, Public Works Salary Adjustment 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

#### **Monday, December 12, 2016 Public Session**

Ordinance O-17-12 Amendment of FY2016-2017 Budget for Income Taxes, Smart City Contractual Services, Training, Housing Rehabilitation Fund, Public Works Salary Adjustment 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading **Approved 5-0-0**

Resolution R-17-12 Amendment of the City's Cell Phone Policy in the Approved Accounting Manual to Include Tablets as City Issued Devices **Approved 5-0-0**

The Meeting Minutes for the month of November were approved on December 12, 2016.

The City Council monthly meetings for the month of January will be on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 as the Regular Work Session at 6:00p.m., Monday, January 9, 2017 for the Public Session at 7:00p.m. All meetings are opened to the public with comments being taken in the Public Session.

Copies of legislation and approved meeting minutes can be found on the City's website [www.seatpleasantmd.gov](http://www.seatpleasantmd.gov) or by contacting the City Clerk Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC directly on 301-336-2600.

### **CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT ETHICS COMMISSION**

The City of Seat Pleasant is seeking interested parties for the Ethics Commission. The interested parties shall contact the City Clerk and **complete the application by Tuesday, January 31, 2017**. In accordance with the Seat Pleasant City Code the duties of the Ethics Commission is sited below.

#### **§ 18-5. Ethics Commission.**

There is a City of Seat Pleasant Ethics Commission that consists of five members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the City Council.

- (1) All members must reside and be registered voters in the City when they are appointed and during their terms of office.

### **CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD**

The City of Seat Pleasant is seeking interested parties to the Personnel Appeals Board. The interested parties shall contact the City Clerk and **complete the application by Tuesday, January 31, 2017**. In accordance with the Seat Pleasant City Code the duties of the Personnel Appeals Board is sited below.

#### **§ 30-1. PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD.**

There is a City of Seat Pleasant Personnel Appeals Board that consists of five members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the City Council. A member of the Personnel Appeals Board shall not be an employee, elected or appointed official of the City of Seat Pleasant or a member of any other committee, board or subcommittee of the City.

All members must reside and be registered voters in the City when they are appointed and during their terms of office.

All submissions for consideration **MUST** can be filed in the **office of the City Clerk**, Seat Pleasant City Hall, 6301 Addison Road, Seat Pleasant, Maryland 20743, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

City of Seat Pleasant  
*"A City of Excellence"*

Primary Business Address  
6301 Addison Road  
Seat Pleasant,  
Maryland, 20743

Phone: 301-336-2600  
Fax: 301-336-0029

PRESORTED  
FIRST CLASS  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID

**We're on the Web!!**  
[www.SeatPleasantMD.gov](http://www.SeatPleasantMD.gov)



#### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

SEAT PLEASANT POLICE DEPARTMENT	301-499-8700
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY NON-EMERGENCY	301-352-1200
SEAT PLEASANT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT	301-336-2331
BATES TRASH	301-773-2069
CITY HALL/CALL-A-BUS	301-336-2600
METRO ACCESS	301-562-5360
PEPCO/OUTAGES & WIRES	202-833-7500/ 877-737-2662
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY DEPT. OF AGING	301-265-8450
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES	301-909-7025
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ELECTION BOARD	301-341-7300
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY THE BUS	301-883-5600
WASHINGTON GAS/EMERGENCY	703-750-1000/ 703-750-1400
WSSC/EMERGENCY	301-206-9772/ 301-206-4002
SEAT PLEASANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	301-925-2330
CARMODY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	301-808-8180
G. JAMES GHOLSON MIDDLE SCHOOL	301-883-8390
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL	301-499-7080
FAIRMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL	301-925-1360

